

Bourne Mansion
Kennebunk, Maine

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District of Maine

Historic American Buildings Survey
Josiah T. Tubby, District Officer
637 Congress St., Portland, Maine

"BOURNE MANSION"

Kennebunk, York County, Maine

Owner

Judge Harold H. Bourne

Date of Erection

1812

Builder

John Usher Parsons

Present Condition

Roof balustrade removed some years ago. Original front door restored. Front porch added. The stables have been moved from their original location(see photograph of model of house) to allow for cutting through of Bourne Street, which now runs through the former site of the stables. The interior of the house is in nearly original condition except for the addition of modern heating, etc.

Number of Stories

Three

Materials of Construction

The foundation of the house is of granite. Exterior walls clapboarded. Interior walls plastered. The hip roof has been re-covered with asphalt roofing. There are eight fireplaces.

Other Existing Records

Chronicles of Kennebunk by William E. Barry published 1924(see page 38). Plaster Model of the Bourne Mansion in original condition, made by William E. Barry (model in custody of Miss Edith C. Barry, Kennebunk).

Additional Data

The Bourne Mansion is a fine old mansion carefully built and modelled from an old mansion in Newburyport, Mass. The front and side doors of the house are interesting and attractive. A Paladian window is located in the second story front of the house. At the west side of the house, between the first and second floors, on the stairway, is an interesting arched window, splayed and panelled inside.

Beside this window and underneath the stairway to the third floor is an arched splayed clock niche. It is not known whether the old clock which stands in it is the one for which the niche was built.

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Bricks for the four chimneys of the house are said to have been brought by ox team from Kennebunkport.

In the interior of the house, there is a graceful winding stairway from the first to the third floor. The skirting of the stairs is fluted. Dado along the stairway with dentil moulding.

The entire house is characterized by fineness of detail.

The Bourne Mansion was originally built on a lot with deep frontage facing the main street of Kennebunk. In front of the house was a garden surrounded by a picket fence, posts of which were decorated with wooden urns.

John Usher Parsons was a representative to the Massachusetts Legislature in 1817. In 1825 he was a Maine State Senator from York County. He was a respected and enterprising merchant of Kennebunk for many years.

Charles E. Jossell

Approved:

Date:

*John J. Tully**Dec 18 1936.*